



PATENT  
0020-4633P

#16  
K. Cofh  
6/19/02

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Akira KATO                      Conf. No.: 7969  
Serial No.: 09/450,649                      Group: 3711  
Filed: November 30, 1999                      Examiner: R. Gordon  
For: THREAD WOUND GOLF BALL

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 11, 2002

Sir:

In reply to the Examiner's Office Action dated December 11, 2001, the period for response having been extended three (3) months to June 11, 2002, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 remain pending in the above-identified application. A Preliminary Amendment was filed on November 15, 2001 with the other papers upon the filing of the Continued Prosecution Application.

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Yabuki et al. is respectfully traversed. The Yabuki et al. reference employs thermoplastic resin (ionomer

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